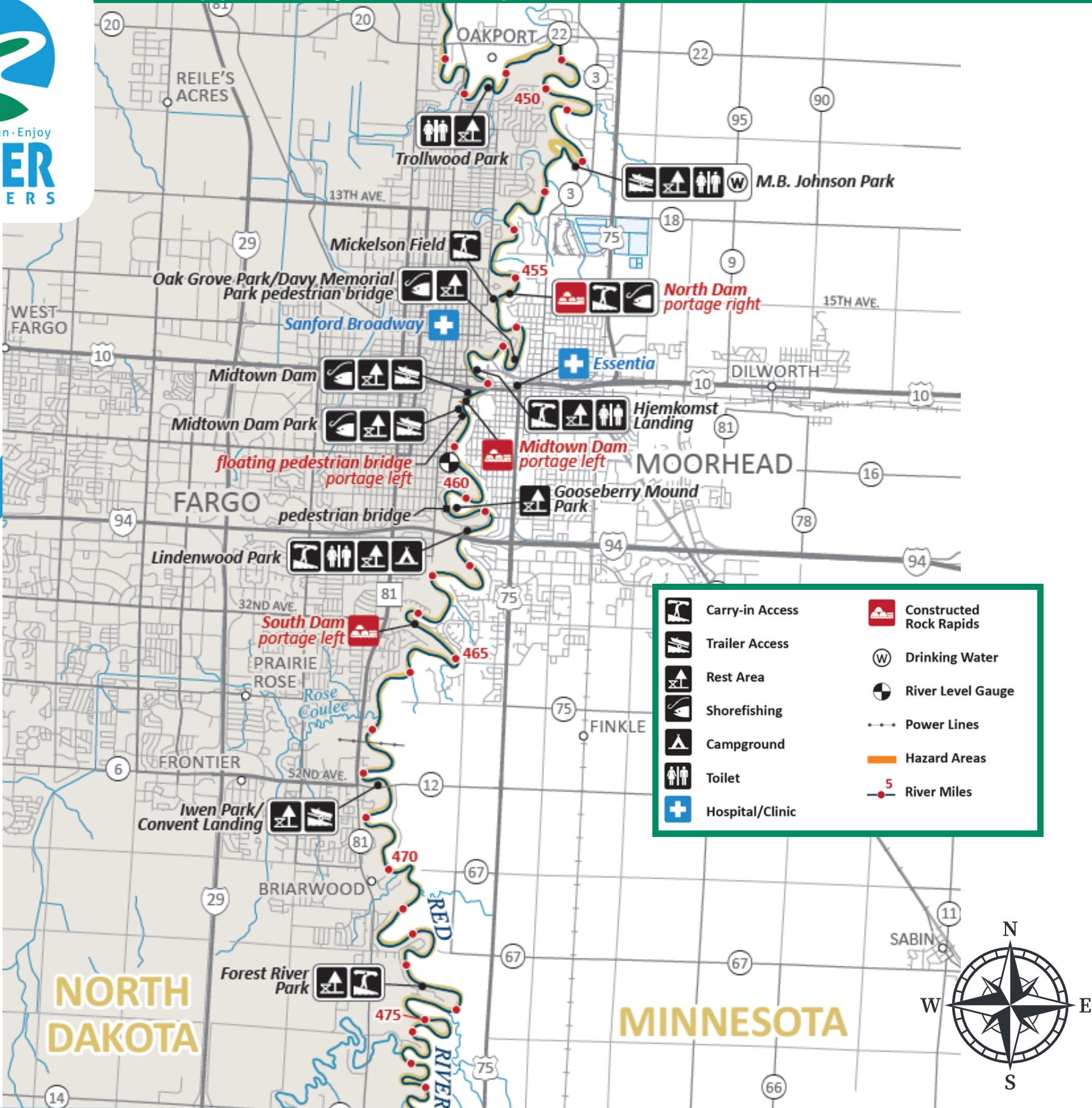


Red River Water Trail Fargo-Moorhead Area

Base map provided by Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

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Except during floods, the Red River of the North is slow-moving and picturesque with its tree-covered banks and frequent wildlife sightings. It is serene and quiet even as the Red passes through small cities. Reminders of the past are found in the muddy banks where bison bones occasionally are exposed. These muddy banks may make access difficult.

There are no rapids except at some of the dams. Low flows expose rocks and snags creating hazards for motors and occasionally block the channel.

Note: River miles are counted beginning at the mouth of the Red River at Lake Winnipeg, Manitoba, and ending at Breckenridge, MN, according to a system developed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Right (R) and left (L) refer to right and left bank, respectively, when facing downstream. River flows Northerly.

- 476.8 (L) Confluence with Wild Rice River.
- 473.5 (L) Forest River Park. Carry-in access, rest area, parking lot.
- 468.5 52nd Avenue/County Road 12 bridge.
- 468.4 (L) Iwen Park/Convent Landing. Trailer access, dock, parking, seasonal toilet, disc golf course.
- 467.2 Powerline Crossing.
- 466.8 Confluence with Rose Coulee.
- 464.4 (L) South Dam (Constructed Rock Rapids). Portage left. Shorefishing.
- 461.5 Interstate 94 bridge.
- 461.4 (L) Lindenwood Park. Picnic shelters, tent and trailer sites with hookups, playgrounds, restrooms, bicycle/kayak rental, carry-in access, trails, public telephone. A trail exists that connects Lindenwood Park to Oak Grove Park (456.5). On North Dakota side of river.

- 460.3 (R) Gooseberry Mound Park. Picnic shelters, playground, seasonal restrooms, trails.
- 460.3 Lindenwood/Gooseberry Mound Park pedestrian bridge. Seasonal.
- 458.5 (L) Midtown Dam Park. Parking, picnic area, shorefishing, dock, dog park nearby.
- 458.5 (L) Floating pedestrian bridge. Portage left. Seasonal.
- 458.4 (L) Midtown Dam (Constructed Rock Rapids). Portage left.
- 458.3 (L) Midtown Dam trailer access. Parking, picnic area, dock & shore fishing.
- 458.0 - 457.5 Street and railroad bridges.
- 457.8 (R) Hjemkomst Landing. Carry-in access, ADA ramp, canoe/kayak rental, parking, trails, interpretive kiosk, interpretive center, museum, restrooms.
- 456.5 Oak Grove Park/Davy Memorial Park pedestrian bridge. Seasonal, picnic area, playground, trails, shorefishing, historic cabin, disc golf course. A trail exists that connects Oak Grove Park to Lindenwood Park.
- 455.4 (L) Mickelson Field. Carry-in access.
- 455.4 12th Avenue/15th Avenue bridge.
- 455.2 (R) North Dam (Constructed Rock Rapids). Portage right, re-enter at carry-in access. Shorefishing.
- 452.1 (R) M.B. Johnson Park. Two trailer accesses, parking, seasonal toilets, picnic shelters, playground, trails, interpretive signage, fish cleaning station.
- 447.5 (L) Trollwood Park. Picnic shelters, seasonal restrooms, trails and disc golf.
- 446.5 North Broadway bridge and powerline crossing.
- 445.8 County Roads 20/22 bridge.



Photo by Dee Merriman



Photo by Dee Merriman

Red River Tips

Always Remember

- Stay sober. Never recreate on the river while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- Children and adults should always wear a Personal Flotation Device (PFD)/life jacket
- Adjust the PFD so that it is snug and comfortable. It should not lift up when pulled by the shoulders.
- Don't assume you have the swimming skills to keep you afloat, even the strongest swimmers can drown.
- Know the river conditions such as flow and water temperature.
- Know the weather conditions paying special attention to sunset, lightning, etc. Prepare for worse case scenarios.
- Take swimming lessons.
- Go with a buddy.
- Bring a first aid kit.
- Don't go into the water to rescue someone else, call 9-1-1, throw something to the person in the water to help them float or reach out with a pole or branch and keep a firm grip.
- Be respectful of all water bodies.

Fishing

- Know where your fishing hooks are flying.
- Pick up all fish hooks, fishing lines, bait containers, etc. so other people/animals don't get hurt.

Dams

- All eight dams on the U.S. portion of the Red River have been retrofitted with a five percent slope rock rapid that has eliminated the undertow and allowed upstream fish migration. Be cautious and use portages when available.
- Watercraft should stay at least 300 feet away from the dams.
- Individuals along banks of the river should stay at least 10 feet away.

Winter Safety

- It not recommended to use the river itself within city limits in the winter as ice conditions vary greatly from bank to bank. In addition, dams, bridges, and storm water outfalls create unsafe ice conditions. Instead, use the banks of the Red River for recreation

Canoeing, Kayaking, and Boating

- Learn the route in advance, including potential hazards.
- Portage around dams.
- Take a paddling/boating class before going on the water. Learn the essential canoeing/kayaking strokes to effectively steer the vessel.
- Avoid situations that are beyond your ability. Be honest with yourself and return back to shore.
- Dress appropriately.
 - Wear sunscreen, hat, and sunglasses.
 - Clothing layers are a great answer to changing temperatures.
- Bring plenty of drinking water and snacks.
- Do not stand up in the vessel. Avoid weight shifts that may cause capsizing.
- Keep vessels a safe distance apart.
- Have a safety plan:
 - Carry a cell phone in a waterproof case.
 - Carry a spare paddle.
 - Bring a whistle or sound signaling device.
 - If you fall in, point your feet downstream and towards the surface and swim to shore.
 - Bring a pump and sponge.
 - Before going on the water, tell someone where you are going and when you will return.
- Be sure your vessel is in safe working condition.
- Never paddle/boat over a low-head dam, fallen tree, or other in-stream obstruction.
- Watch for angler lines in the river.
- Watch for boaters on the river.

Riverfront Users

- Always watch children in and around water as they can quickly enter the water or get in trouble when your attention is diverted, if only for a second.
- Be cautious around muddy riverbanks and slippery rocky areas.
- Do not fall asleep on the edge of the riverbank.

AIS/ANS Precautions

The Red River is host to zebra mussels. To prevent the spread of AIS/ANS (Aquatic Invasive/Nuisance Species) to other waterbodies, make sure to drain water from the inside of vessels and remove any plants or debris from equipment.

Additional recommendations:

- Spray with high-pressure water
- Rinse with very hot water (120°F for at least 2 minutes; or 140°F for at least 10 seconds)
- Dry for at least 5 days



**STOP AQUATIC
HITCHHIKERS!**
Be A Good Steward. Clean. Drain. Dry.
StopAquaticHitchhikers.org



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OUR MISSION:

Connecting our community safely to the Red River of the North through education, stewardship, and engagement.

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